

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CANBER 06964 300852Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /057 W  
-----015792 310414Z /15  
R 300746Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4173

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 6964

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP (NIXON, RICHARD), AS  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT BY RICHARD NIXON TO AUSTRALIA

OVER THE PAST WEEK, THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL ARTICLES  
IN THE AUSTRALIAN PRESS REPORTING THE POSSIBILITY OF A  
VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY FORMER PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON.

2. ONE IN THE "AUSTRALIAN" OF AUGUST 26 IS THE MOST  
EXPLICIT: "MR. NIXON HAS RECEIVED INVITATIONS TO VISIT  
A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES" HIS AIDE AND SPOKESMAN COL. JACK  
BRENNAN SAID IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH THE "AUSTRALIAN".  
"ONE OF THE COUNTRIES THAT ISSUED AN INVITATION WAS  
AUSTRALIA... AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE MIGHT MAKE A VISIT  
BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT YEAR". ASKED ABOUT  
THE SOURCE OF THE INVITATION, COL. BRENNAN REPLIED: I  
CANNOT TELL WHO ISSUED THE INVITATION."

3. THE "AUSTRALIAN" ARTICLE GOES ON TO SAY THE SOURCE OF  
THE INVITATION IS A MYSTERY; IT HAS CAUSED A DIPLOMATIC  
FLAP IN CANBERRA WHERE ONE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT  
OFFICIAL SAID BLUNTLY: "WE DIDN'T INVITE HIM."

4. DFA TELLS US PRIVATELY THAT BRENNAN IN FACT DID  
APPROACH AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, SEEKING  
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INFORMATION ABOUT HOW FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON MIGHT  
BE RECEIVED. IT WAS DFA'S CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT BRENNAN  
WAS "ANGLING" FOR AN OFFICIAL GOA INVITATION (IN RESPONSE)  
TO WHICH FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON WOULD BE TREATED AS AN  
OFFICIAL GUEST OF THE GOA). AFTER CONSIDERING THE PROS  
AND CONS, PM FRASER HIMSELF IS REPORTED TO HAVE MADE THE  
DECISION NOT TO EXTEND AN INVITATION. DFA HAS REPLIED

SOLELY THAT NO INVITATION HAS BEEN ISSUED AND THEY ARE  
SAYING IN REPLY TO COL. BRENNAN THAT A VISIT AT THIS  
TIME WOULD BE "INOPPORTUNE."  
ALSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE VISIT BY RICHARD NIXON TO AUSTRALIA OVER THE PAST WEEK, THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL ARTICLES IN THE AUSTRALIAN PRESS REPORTING THE POSSIBILITY  
**TAGS:** OVIP, AS, (NIXON, RICHARD)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
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